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27 December 2017 Vol 24 • Issue 52 www.champnews.com

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RAIL STRIKES SET TO HIT PASSENGERS

STAFF at Merseyrail and Northern are to stage three 24-hour strikes in the space of a week in the new year as part of their dispute over the role of guards.

Their action is set to cause misery for thousands of local passengers as they return to work after the festive break.

The strikes will take place on January 8, 10 and 12.

The RMT maintain it has done everything it can to resolve the dispute. RMT General Secretary Mick Cash claimed: "Every single effort that RMT has made to reach negotiated settlements in these separate disputes with the different train operating companies over safe operation and safe staffing has been kicked back in our faces and we are left with no option but to confirm a further phase of industrial action in the New Year.

"No one should be in any doubt, these disputes are about putting the safety of the travelling public before the profits of the private train companies This suspension of normal industrial relations by the employers has to end if we are to make progress towards a solution that guarantees safe rail travel for all.

Report by **Henry James**

"RMT is demanding that the blockade on talks is lifted in these disputes to allow us to negotiate freely with the companies and give us the opportunity to pursue the objective of a guard guarantee that puts British passenger safety before the rank exploitation of our rail network by fare-jacking private companies who are laughing all the way to the bank.

"RMT stands ready for talks in each of these separate disputes."

However, Andy Heath, Merseyrail's managing director, commented: "Clearly the RMT would rather manage their affairs on behalf of our guards from the side of a picket line despite the best efforts of the City Region's Metro Mayor to meet for meaningful conciliation talks.

"Following on from the RMT's latest announcement I would like to make our passengers aware that we want to make every effort to reach an agreement with the RMT and have offered to meet with them with no preconditions in an effort to resolve this dispute - something they are unwilling to do.

"It is a fact that the only concession in this dispute so far is one that was put forward by Merseyrail several months ago when offering a guaranteed customer service adviser on every train after 8pm until last."

● *Meanwhile, from December 27 to January 8, the line from Ormskirk to Maghull will be closed to enable engineers to install platforms at the new Maghull North Railway Station.*

Patricia Gregory celebrating her 100th birthday with sons Peter and Nigel at Aughton's High Wray Care Home last week.

New year, new century for 100-year-old Patricia

IT MAY be the end of the year but it's the beginning of a new century for one Aughton resident.

Patricia Gregory celebrated her 100th birthday at High Wray Care Home on Formby Lane with a special afternoon tea and entertainment.

Family came from all over the country to share the occasion which was marked by a telegram from the Queen and also enjoyed by staff and other residents.

Great grandmother Patricia, who was born in Birmingham, worked for the Post Office during World War 2 and also an auxiliary in the fire service. Her husband Cyril was a captain in the army during the war serving in Asia.

She remains an active member of her local University of the Third Age group, members of which take her to a luncheons club.

Of the birthday celebrations, High Wray Care Home's Deputy Manager John Cooney said: "The afternoon was absolutely splendid. A really joyful occasion."

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RSPCA welcomes tougher jail terms for animal cruelty

Report by **Tom Martin**

Happy in her new home - Bella was a victim of animal cruelty when she was found wandering the streets in West Lancashire. Luckily a kind-hearted passer-by spotted her and the puppy was taken to the RSPCA's Greater Manchester Hospital where she got the care she needed and has now been re-homed.

TOUGHER jail sentences for people who commit animal cruelty has been welcomed by the RSPCA.

A draft bill has been penned by Michael Gove, the Environment Secretary, which proposes increasing the maximum prison sentence for animal cruelty ten-fold, from six months to five years.

RSPCA officials revealed last week that only 6.5% of people who were prosecuted under the Animal Welfare Act saw the insides of a cell.

As well as increasing jail terms for animal cruelty, the legislation will also recognise animal sentience in domestic law.

The move comes after the government faced a furious backlash last month from animal rights campaigners for voting against the adoption of EU laws recognising that animals feel pain and emotions.

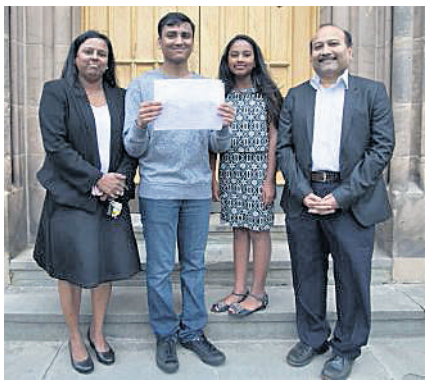
Michael Ward, interim chief executive of the RSPCA, said: "It's great news that the government has committed to bringing in tougher sentences in England and Wales. Sadly, every year, our inspectors are faced with sickening cases of animal abuse, cruelty and neglect. And while, in as many cases as possible, we seek to deal with complaints of animal cruelty using preventative measures such as education and advice, sometimes we feel it is necessary to bring animal abusers before the courts for punishment.

"This year our officers have seen shocking cases of horses being hit repeatedly with wood, pets being beaten to death by their owners, and dogs being kept in cold, concrete pens coated in their own filth.

"As the cruelty continues to shock us, so too do the sentences handed out to such cold-hearted and cruel individuals. Of the 40 people who received immediate jail terms in RSPCA prosecutions this year so far, just 14 were given sentences towards the upper limit of six months."

In 2017 so far (up to December 8), just 40 people have received immediate jail sentences, which is 6.5% of the 620 people convicted under the Animal Welfare Act.

The RSPCA takes on more than 80% of all prosecutions under the Animal Welfare Act.



Udit and his family after receiving his impressive GCSE results.

Poetry in motion for teenager, 16

AN Aughton teenager who featured in the Champion last summer for a stellar performance in his GCSEs, has now demonstrated his artistic flair too after his one of his first attempts at poetry landed him a commendation in an international poetry competition.

Udit Mahalingam, 16, found out he had clinched an amazing clean sweep of top grades in his GCSE exams at Crosby's Merchant Taylors' Boys' School in August. He has now been awarded a 'Commended' in the Foyle Young Poets of the Year Award.

Founded by the Poetry Society in 1998, the award is firmly established as the key competition for young poets and many of its former winners have gone on to publish work with major publishing houses such as Faber & Faber and Carcanet.

Udit's entry was chosen from more than 6,000 entries submitted by writers from 89 different countries. The awards were handed out at the London Literature Festival.

The student was surprised but thrilled to have been among the winners. He said: "I must admit that I didn't fully comprehend the scale at which this competition was held, and didn't think I stood a chance of even being accepted for submission.

"I'm still a bit in shocked that the judges thought my work was good enough for commendation, especially since it was one of my first attempts at writing poetry!"

Hospitals to promote organ donation in new campaign

Report by **Henry James**

SOUTHPORT and Ormskirk hospitals are working in partnership with NHS Blood and Transplant to promote organ donation to all its staff, patients and visitors.

The doors to the main lifts have been covered with promotional messages urging people to sign up to be an organ donor.

In total, there are currently 23 people across West Lancashire and 172 in Merseyside who need a lifesaving organ transplant. They need people to say 'yes' to organ donation so they can get the organ they so desperately need.

The hospital is promoting organ donation in both Southport and Ormskirk hospitals - with the aim it might make people think about it while waiting for the lift and then go on to register. This would hopefully, in turn, open the door to more people getting the transplants they need.

During the past decade people in Merseyside and West Lancashire have had their lives saved or transformed thanks to deceased organ donors from across the UK. However, sadly three people a day still die while in need of a transplant due to the shortage of people willing to donate organs.

The hospital have said that in total, eight out of 10 of people agree it's important to tell those closest to them their views about organ donation after death, but only a third say their family knows their wishes about organ donation.

Laurence Frys, Specialist Nurse for Organ Donation at Southport and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust, said: "Organ donation saves lives and one organ donor can save or transform up to nine lives and even more by donating tissue as well.

Dr Andrew Kent with Specialist Nurse Laurence Frys promote the campaign at Southport Hospital

"I know that more families agree to donation if they know their loved one was on the Organ Donor Register. Save your family from having to guess what you would have wanted. Join the NHS Organ Donor Register and let your family know your decision. One day it could be someone you love in need of a transplant."

Dr Andrew Kent, clinical lead for Organ Donation at Southport Hospital, added: "We are delighted to be promoting organ donation on the doors of the lifts within the hospitals. Transplants save lives and are only possible if people are willing to donate."

People are being invited to sign up at www.organdonation.nhs.uk and let their friends and family know they want to help others after their death.

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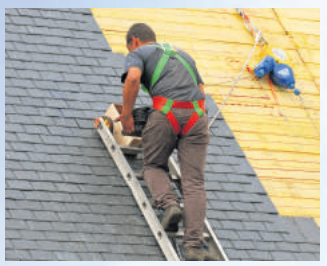

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Developers make renewed appeal to build on 'safeguarded' land

Report by **Kenny Parker**

...but council will make 'robust defence' to stop housing plans going ahead

MEMBERS of a local residents group have pledged their full support to West Lancs Council in a battle with developers over proposals to build 400 homes on a 'safeguarded' site.

Builders, Redrow Homes and Wainhomes have launched a second appeal against the council decision to reject plans for 250 and 150 homes respectively on land bordering Parrs Lane and Prescot Road, Aughton.

As part of the council's Local Plan, identifying the borough's projected housing requirements over the period 2012 to 2027, the land was one of a number of sites classified as 'safeguarded' from unscheduled development until 2027.

This means that it would not be built on unless the authority falls significantly behind in its targets for the completion of dwellings.

When Redrow Homes and Wainhomes submitted their plans to develop the land they were rejected by West Lancs Council.

Wainhomes subsequently won an appeal to the Planning Inspectorate but this was quashed following an appeal to the High Court by the borough council. Redrow Homes lost their appeal to the Planning Inspectorate.

Now though, both housebuilders are making a renewed joint appeal to the Planning Inspectorate to overturn the council's decision. The council say they are preparing to robustly defend their decision, however, and Aughton Residents Group (ARG) say they will be providing their full support.

The Parrs Lane area of Aughton that developers are appealing for a second time to be allowed to build on.

The residents' group says that conditions that would permit the building on a safeguarded site had not been met and accuses the developers of being driven by profit and undermining the Local Plan.

Colin Atkinson, Chairman of the group says: "Unfortunately the developers have already incurred considerable costs trying to procure the Parrs Lane sites for development and seem increasingly adamant in their intention to reap the rewards of their investments.

"To that end they continue to seek any opening through which they can challenge the Local Plan, even though it was determined to be sound at a previous Planning Inspector's Hearing. Consequently the developers have tried throwing various 'spanners into the works' but the WLBC Councillors and their officers, have been steadfast in their defence of the Local Plan. This is fundamentally a case of big business trying to usurp local democracy in the pursuit of profit."

A Public Inquiry is due to commence at the WLBC Offices in Ormskirk on Tuesday January 30, 2018.

Both the Redrow and Wainhomes appeals (conjoined) will be considered by a new Planning Inspector during the Inquiry which is scheduled to last for up to four days. ARG will be making further representations at the hearing and have prepared a video presentation.

Residents can make comments and representations to the Planning Inspectorate by December 29 at https://acp.planninginspectorate.gov.uk (references 3132594 and 3132596) or by emailing leanne.palmer@pins.gsi.gov.uk, quoting reference numbers APP/P2365/W/15/3132594 and APP/P2365/W/15/3132596.

Redrow Homes declined to make a statement and Wainhomes did not respond to a request for comment.

A statement from West Lancs council said: "The planning application for the development of the site at Parrs Lane for housing was refused by the council as the proposal was contrary to Local Plan policies. The council will make a robust defence of that decision at the forthcoming appeal."

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New chief executive takes over at NHS hospital trust

Report by **Danielle Thompson**

A NEW chief executive has been appointed at Southport and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust.

Silas Nicholls is, say health chiefs, an experienced chief executive in NHS hospitals and is currently group deputy chief executive at Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust.

He will take up the role early next year, succeeding Karen Jackson, who joined the Trust in April as interim chief executive.

The appointment comes after the Trust had to cough up an astonishing £2.4 million during the two-year exclusions saga which ended in the dismissal of its former chief executive, Jonathan Parry.

Mr Parry, along with chief operating officer, Sheilah Finnegan, human resources director, Sharon Partington and deputy director of performance, Richard McCarthy, were all excluded in August 2015 following whistle-blowing allegations. The full cost of the investigation to the Trust, including lawyers, was £1.39 million and a further £1m was spent paying suspended staff during the process.

Ms Partington resigned before facing the disciplinary panel and Ms Finnegan retired. Mr McCarthy was cleared of all allegations and allowed to return to work.

Rigorous

An 18-month long investigation subsequently revealed that neither Richard McCarthy nor Sheilah Finnegan were found to have done anything wrong. Jonathan Parry was sacked for seven counts of gross misconduct - later reduced to five counts following an appeal hearing in October 2016.

Silas Nicholls joined University Hospital of South Manchester NHS Foundation Trust in December 2014 as Chief Operating Officer. He then held the role of Chief Executive from November 2016.

Mr Nichools is a former Director of Operations and Performance at Clatterbridge Cancer Centre NHS Foundation Trust and Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Strategy at Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS Foundation Trust.

He started his career in the NHS as a graduate management trainee and has held a wide range of general management posts, including commissioning roles in health authorities, management of community services and as a divisional manager at hospital trusts across the North West.

Trust bosses pointed out that the recruitment process for its new chief executive was rigorous and included focus groups with both staff and Board members. The feedback from these groups contributed to the appointing decision.

Richard Fraser, Trust chair, said: "I am delighted to welcome Silas to the Trust. He brings with him a wealth of experience and a strong track record of achievement.

"I also want to thank Karen Jackson for her huge contribution this year. With the support of our staff and stakeholders, she has helped lay substantial foundations on which to build local hospital services for the future."

Silas Nicholls

Law firm to partner four universities

A SOLICITORS firm has forged a partnership with the legal departments of four universities.

Darren White, solicitor in family law at Maxwell Hodge Solicitors, which has eight branches across Merseyside including offices on Chapel Lane in Formby revealed that they will be assisting Edge Hill University in Ormskirk and three Liverpool universities with student and solicitor led legal clinics, mentoring them and offering opportunities to students to shadow lawyers.

Claire Banks, director of Maxwell Hodge added: "We recognise the importance of the next generation of lawyers and want to help students develop their knowledge and skills. We are very much looking forward to working with the universities."

Members of the Southport and Ormskirk Oddfellows enjoying a brew

Come join us, say friendship group

MEMBERS of The Oddfellows Society, who aim to promote friendship in Southport and Ormskirk, are urging potential new faces to join them for their busy winter events schedule.

More than nine million people of all ages in the UK say they are lonely either often or always, according to research by The Co-Op and the Red Cross.

The Oddfellows aim to prevent this by encouraging people to come along to an event, meet their members and find out what they can offer.

They have a number of events planned for next month including a coffee morning on Wednesday, January 3 at the Royal Clifton Hotel in Southport; a coffee morning on Tuesday, January 9 at 10.30am at The Bay Horse on Church Road in Formby and lunch at the Italian Orchard on Friday, January 26.

Judith Catton social events organiser for the Oddfellows said: "We're helping people to forge new friendships, particularly as we begin a New Year. Many people of all ages can become isolated and sad over the winter months. Our events provide the perfect opportunity for people to make new friendships in a really easy, relaxed way.

"We want to make sure that people are resisting the urge to stay in as winter approaches and instead come join us."

To find out more, call Judith on 01704 545279 or email Judith.catton@oddfellows.co.uk or visit oddfellows.co.uk

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Martin Mere news

ADVERTISING FEATURE

Festive Fun at WWT Martin Mere Wetland Centre

With Christmas holidays already creeping up on us we have loads of activities going on at WWT Martin Mere Wetland Centre for the whole family to enjoy. Whether you want to get outdoors to walk off the Christmas turkey or your new year's resolution is get healthier surrounded by wetlands and nature.

The fun starts from Tuesday 26 December to Sunday 7 January. Visiting Martin Mere is a great winter day out with lots to see and do, from experiencing our everyday wildlife to getting involved in festive family activities.

We have a range of activities to keep everyone entertained:

- Take part in our sleeping beauties hibernation trail to learn about all the creatures and plants that will be fast asleep for winter
- Come and see our family of otters, Belle, Flick and Penny as they play and feed every day at 11.30am and 2.30pm
- Our adventure play area is open all for children guaranteed fun.
- Our spectacular swan feeds are a must see. We are expected to have over 1000 swans, shelducks, teal, wigeon and pintail this is something you must experience as the sound and sight of them are truly amazing! The swan feeds are everyday at 3pm and 3.30pm.
- Between 12noon and 3pm you can come take part in our family fun filled crafts in the Education Centre including making pine cone feeders and log feeders. Small charge applies
- Come and see how the newest arrivals have settled in in the daily white stork talk and feeds at 2pm.

WWT Martin Mere Wetland Centre is a haven for a host of creatures such as otters, kingfishers, geese and swans. Watch birds from the shelter of our comfortable hides, enjoy an expert walk or talk, or simply watch the world go by in our cafe overlooking our waterfowl collection – there's plenty to do at a Wetland Centre all year round.

WWT Martin Mere Wetland Centre is open every day (except Christmas Day) from 9.30am to 4.30pm during winter months and parking is free of charge. Situated off the A59, it is signposted from the M61, M58 and M6. The Centre is also accessible via the Southport to Manchester and the Liverpool to Preston line by train from Burscough Rail Stations. Visit the web site www.wwt.org.uk/martinmere/ to find out what's on all year round at Martin Mere and the other eight WWT Wetland Centres.

Visit the web site www.wwt.org.uk/martinmere to find out what's on the reserve at the moment as well as all the upcoming events

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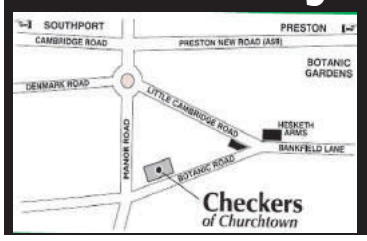

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Reminder to parents to apply for places at primary schools

PARENTS who have children starting school in 2018 are being reminded to apply for their place.

The closing date for applications is January 15, 2018, and online via the county council's website is the quickest and easiest way to apply.

Parents need to submit an application form for all children starting school, even if the child already has an older brother or sister at their preferred school.

County Councillor Susie Charles, cabinet member for children, young people and schools, said: "Christmas is a busy time of year for many people, but I urge parents to remember to apply online for a primary school place for their child.

"If a family already has a child at a school, they must still apply for a place for their younger child.

"And if they have twins, they'll need to fill in two application forms.

"We know how important it is for parents to get the right school for their child, so we're encouraging them to apply on time to give themselves the best chance.

"It is important that parents include at least one of their local schools in their preferences.

"The deadline for applications for primary school places is 15 January 2018."

County Councillor Susie Charles, cabinet member for children, young people and schools

Children start primary school in the September after their fourth birthday.

For more information, visit www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools

Parents can also call on 0300 123 6707.

Parents whose children attend Lancashire primary schools or academies, but live in another local authority area, should apply via the local authority where they live.

Council attends White Ribbon training event

REPRESENTATIVES of West Lancs Council were among more than 40 White Ribbon Ambassadors invited by the county's police and crime commissioner, Clive Grunshaw to learn the latest ways to combat male violence against women and girls.

The White Ribbon Campaign is part of a global movement to put stop to male on female violence. As part of 16 days of action against domestic abuse and Lancashire's commitment as the first White Ribbon County, the commissioner's office arranged dedicated training for the ambassadors to explore ways they could help tackle domestic abuse as male role models. Between April 2016 and March this year, more than 10,600 domestic abuse crimes reported to the police in Lancashire.

Lancashire became the first White Ribbon county in the UK after all its local councils joined the commissioner's office and Lancashire Police in becoming accredited as White Ribbon organisations.

Commissioner calls on government to come clean about extra police funding

LANCASHIRE'S Police and Crime Commissioner has called on the Government to 'come clean' to council tax payers about the increased funding promised for policing.

Commissioner Clive Grunshaw's appeal comes after Home Secretary Amber Rudd announced a £450 million increase in police funding across England and Wales as part of a "comprehensive settlement" for forces and counter terrorism policing.

However, while £130 million of that settlement will be money provided from central funds for special grants to help forces meet unexpected costs, along with another £50 million for counter terrorism police, £270 million is to be raised locally through increased council taxes.

Mr Grunshaw said that the settlement means that Lancashire won't be receiving any direct additional funding from central funds and that the government needs to come clean that it is passing the burden of the additional funds to council tax payers.

He said: "I welcome any new money which comes into policing to help keep people safe, however this announcement fails to deliver any new money from Government directly towards policing here in Lancashire.

"The government need to be clear, based on their announcement today, any increase in local funding is completely reliant on police and crime commissioners raising council tax by the highest amount we possibly can.

"With inflation at its highest for years and increasing pressures on a service which has seen Lancashire lose 800 officers and more than 400 police staff, the government knows this means commissioners will need to raise council tax to even maintain the service residents need and deserve.

"After years of disingenuously claiming to be protecting police budgets, when forces like Lancashire have received less and less, the government now expects local council tax payers to bail them out. This announcement doesn't come close to addressing the issues."

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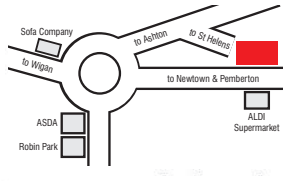

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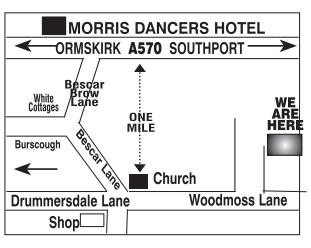

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MD Don Bircham of Hays Travel North West

Shop opening in town 'shows resurgence of high street travel agents'

AN independent travel agency has opened one of its newest branches in Ormskirk creating six new jobs.

Hays Travel North West has launched a recruitment drive to take on 60 new staff as part of a major expansion which will see 12 new offices opened across the North West and North Wales by the middle of next year.

The new Ormskirk store, has just opened its doors on Burscough Street. It is one of five new branches currently being added to the fold with the others in Southport, Colwyn Bay, Rhyl, and West Kirby on the Wirral.

Managing director Don Bircham is now looking for new recruits to join his 146-strong team.

His travel firm, which has just announced an end of year turnover of more than £50m for the first time, has spent £350,000 on refurbishing the five new stores. They will take the total number of Hays Travel North West branches to 28 with a further rise to 35 expected by the summer of 2018.

Don said: "I am very proud that we have developed the business to this level and we are thrilled to have opened one our newest store in Ormskirk. It shows the resurgence of travel agencies on the high street and we have positioned ourselves perfectly to benefit from this.

"Our plans to expand are ambitious and we have identified around 60 towns across this region which fit our criteria and we hope will be part of the development of the business.

"Our focus always was to reinvest our profits and develop the business across North Wales and the North West and create jobs for the region at the same time.

"Now I am urgently looking for new people to join our team and we have a lot to offer including competitive salaries and the opportunity to work in an exciting and fun industry for a fast growing organisation with career opportunities.

"People don't necessarily need previous experience of working in the travel industry. We are looking for people with experience of working in retail, banking and other customer facing businesses, who are highly motivated and articulate and have an interest in travel.

"We don't want people to assume they are not qualified because we can provide training to the right individuals."

Pedal away all that festive food!

A BIKE hire scheme is inviting new West Lancs users to pedal off their festive food!

The bikes can be hired from various train stations across Lancashire, including Ormskirk and Skelmersdale.

A recent study by Forza Supplements reveals that the average Brit will eat up to 5,241 calories on Christmas Day, and would have to run the equivalent of two marathons to burn it off.

David O'Leary, director of Bike & Go said: "While very few of us will have the time, inclination, or even the ability to burn off thousands of calories in one month through exercise, most people will benefit from a bike ride.

"By jumping on a bike, you can escape the Christmas madness, clear your head, and burn off up to 270 calories at the same time."

Those who don't want to cycle alone can enlist friends and arrange their own 'festive sights' tour, or join one of the many group bike rides on offer in the area.

Praised

There are also a number of other organised bike rides around the region, many of which are women-only events, around the festive period.

David said: "No matter how you choose to do it, taking to two wheels this December can make you look and feel better."

Bike & Go offers bike hire facilities from 70 participating train stations across much of the North West, North East and Yorkshire, East and South East of England, and Scotland.

Last year the scheme was praised by a UK division of the travel giant TripAdvisor when it was included in a list of the top seven bicycle hire companies drawn up by its subsidiary rental company Holiday Lettings.

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Young fencers cross swords at tournament

Report by **Henry James**

A PAIR of talented youngsters from Scarisbrick Hall School are set to 'cross swords' with some of the best fencers in the country after being chosen to represent the North West in a prestigious competition.

Annabelle Montagu, 13, and 12-year-old Grace Michell will be stepping up four and five-year age groups respectively when they take part in the Cadet Winton Cup, a tournament for under-17s.

The pair's late call-up, when two regular members of the squad had to drop out, is a result of their impressive form this year bringing them to the attention of the selectors.

Grace and Annabelle are set to cross swords with some of the country's top young fencers

First taste of success

Grace finished 28th in the British Under-12s Championships, while Annabelle enjoyed a first tournament victory at the Liverpool Under-13s North West Junior Series Epee.

The pair, who were presented with their regional colours at the school's end-of-term awards evening by headmaster, Mr Shaw, thanked the school's fencing teacher David Stobbs for his support and extra coaching.

Grace also wanted to thank the Benjamin Gautrey Foundation for their sponsorship which has helped her to pursue national events this year.

The Winton Cup is named after Sir Nicholas Winton, a talented fencer and renowned Second World War humanitarian who was instrumental in saving more than 600 children from Nazi-occupied Czechoslovakia.

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Vet practice raises money for pet life-saving equipment

A VETERINARY practice in Burscough has raised money to buy oxygen masks for the fire and rescue service to help save pets caught in house fires.

Vets4Pets sold raffle tickets, held a tombola, and ran a giant pumpkin competition to raise £360 to buy four of the potential pet life-saving kits for fire stations in Ormskirk, Burscough, Tarleton and Southport.

They also placed a remembrance Christmas tree in the surgery on which, for a donation, pet owners could hang a heart displaying the name of a deceased pet.

The money has gone to Smokey Paws, a national not-for-profit organisation which supplies the oygen masks to fire services.

Laura Holder, at Vets4Pets on Ringtail Retail Park, said: "When we realised that the local fire service did not have these kits, which are not widely known about, we decided we wanted to help out."

She added: "We think Smokey Paws is a really good organisation and the kits are something the whole community can benefit from if they are needed. So hopefully our whole community can benefit."

A Smokey Paws spokesperson said: "With more than 40,000 house fires a year, nationally, it's an unfortunate fact that pets die from smoke inhalation. Smokey Paws, with your help, give specially designed pet oxygen masks to the UK fire services. These masks are proven to save pets, the next pet saved could be yours."

Mal Dewhurst, group manager for Lancashire Fire Services southern area said: "Escaping from a fire is difficult enough for humans but sometimes it's even harder for pets, particularly for those kept in cages or particular rooms where a fire may have broken out.

"We attend thousands of house fires each year and from time to time there are pets still inside when fire crews arrive at the scene and who need our help.

"These new masks are specifically designed to fit animals faces and so they'll undoubtedly help our attempts to treat pets that are affected by smoke.

"We are very grateful for the donations that Vets4Pets and Smokey Paws have made and we know that their donations will contribute towards saving the lives of pets around southern Lancashire in the future."

Vets4Pets has helped raise money for emergency oxygen masks for pets.

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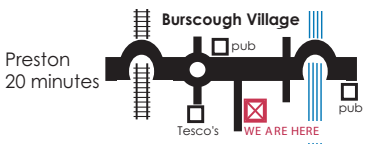

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31st Dec - 11 - 4pm
1st Jan - CLOSED
2nd Jan - 9.15 - 5pm

Participants in the third annual train ride fundaraiser

Train ride on right track for charity!

AN annual charity train ride taking in much of the Merseyrail network, including Ormskirk station, has raised more than £10,000 for a homeless centre.

More than 150 people took part in a special charity rail tour, which was held in support of the Whitechapel Centre, which supports the homeless in Liverpool.

It was full steam ahead as the six-car 507/508 class electric multiple unit departed Hooton station at 9.15am, travelling along the Stock Interchange Line in both directions and visiting more than 20 stations as part of its marathon nine-hour round trip.

The unique chartered train journey has generated donations in excess of £40,000 for various Liverpool charities including the Clatterbridge Centre, the Community Link Foundation and Claire House.

The Whitechapel Wayfarer was organised by the Branch Line Society, a UK-based voluntary association for railway enthusiasts, in conjunction with Merseyrail. A members' only event, it gave those on-board exclusive behind the scenes access to parts of the Merseyrail network which are closed to passenger trains.

Highlights on the day included a visit to both Birkenhead and Kirkdale depots, to take in the sights and sounds of the maintenance sheds, and passengers were also treated to a wide variety of detailed sidings and crossovers.

As well as ticket fares, additional proceeds were generated by souvenir sales, on train raffles and an auction where there was a selection of money can't buy items up for grabs, including a visit to the control centre at Sandhills Station.

Kev Adlam from the Branch Line Society, said: "I'd like to thank all our members for their generosity, who came from as far and wide as Jersey and the Isle of Man to show their support and to Merseyrail for helping to make this happen.

"There was a huge amount of planning and preparation behind the scenes that went into making it such a huge success.

"It was definitely one of the highlights of the year for our society as we were granted access to parts of the network we had never visited before which made it extra special."

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H'boro officer to escape charges after 'lashing out' at Reds fans

Report by **Tom Martin**

A MOUNTED police officer who was caught on camera lashing out at Liverpool fans during the 1989 Hillsborough disaster will face no charges after prosecutors said "there is not a realistic prospect of conviction."

Footage from the day, in which 96 supporters were unlawfully killed in the disaster, shows the South Yorkshire Police officer involved in a confrontation with fans.

However, the officer, who has not been identified, claimed he had reacted when fans burnt his police horse with cigarettes, and this claim was backed up by his friend – a civilian farrier.

The allegation was that their accounts were false and were given to protect the police officer from disciplinary action.

A full file of evidence was received from the Independent Police Complaints Commission (IPCC) in June 2017 and has been considered by Crime Prosecution Service (CPS) prosecutors.

The CPS issued a statement on Friday, December 15 to say that there is not a realistic prospect of convicting the police officer and they had informed the Hillsborough families.

However, the "evidential threshold for a charge of perverting the course of justice" was met in the case of the civilian farrier – but a case against him will not be taken forward.

Public interest

In accordance with the two-stage test set out in the Code for Crown Prosecutors, the public interest in pursuing the case was then considered and it was concluded that it is not in the public interest to prosecute this individual and so no charge was authorised.

A full explanation of the charging decisions has been provided in writing to the families and their representatives, along with the suspects and other interested parties.

The CPS also wanted to remind members of the public that there are live criminal proceedings in relation to the Hillsborough disaster and it is "extremely important that there should be no reporting, commentary or sharing of information online which could in any way prejudice these proceedings."

Ninety six Liverpool fans were unlawfully killed in the 1989 disaster when the Reds played Nottingham Forrest in an FA Cup semi-final match.

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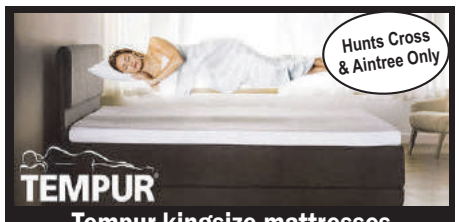

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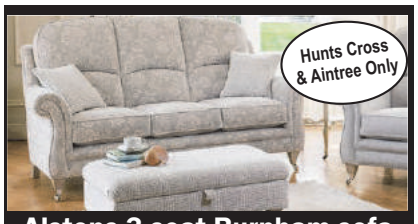

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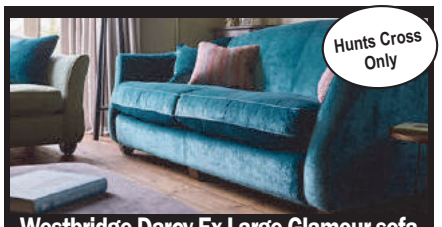

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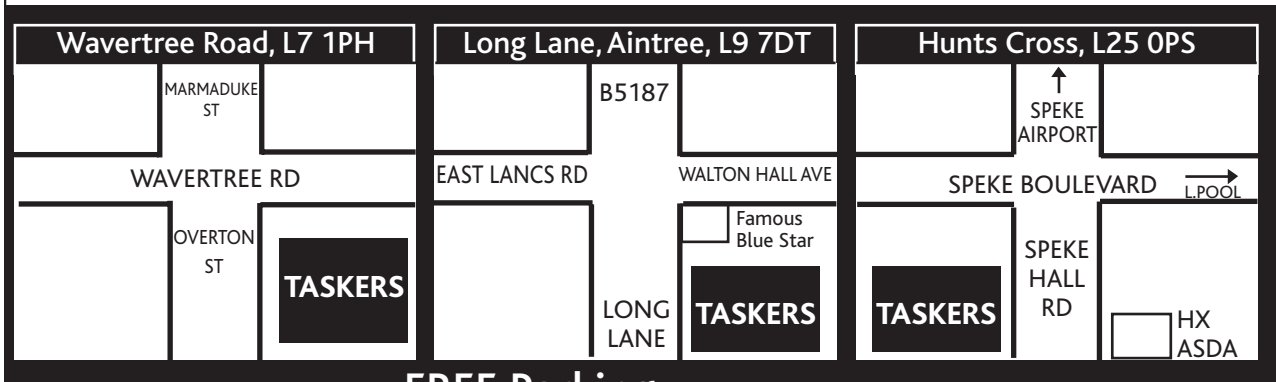

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Smokers urged to kick the habit over festive period

SMOKERS in West Lancashire are being urged to use the Christmas break to finally give up the habit.

The Quit Squad, a service delivered by Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust and funded by Lancashire County Council, is encouraging people to make their households smoke-free this festive season.

Second-hand smoke is dangerous for anyone exposed to it, but children are especially vulnerable as they have less well-developed airways, lungs and immune systems.

Gareth Beck from the Quit Squad said: "We would like to convey a Merry Christmas to the people of Lancashire, and as families and friends get together over the festive period we would like to let people know that children are particularly vulnerable to the effects of second-hand smoke.

"Just because you can't see it doesn't mean it's harmless. Every time a child breathes in second-hand smoke, they breathe in thousands of chemicals which put them at risk of serious health conditions, including glue ear, asthma, bronchitis and other respiratory disorders."

For support and advice on how to quit smoking visit the Quit Squad website www.quitsquad.nhs.uk. For details about Smoke Free Homes visit www.lancashiresmokefreehomes.co.uk.

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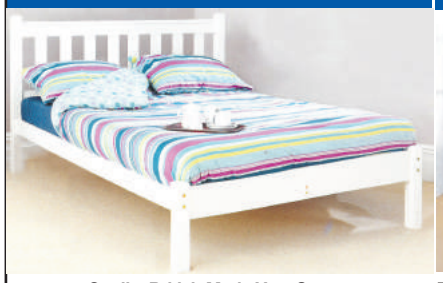

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OLD BED RECYCLING SERVICE

Domestic abuse victims urged to seek support over Christmas

WEST Lancashire Community Safety Partnership (WLCSP) is reminding locals that help is still available for anyone experiencing domestic abuse during the festive period.

Although for most peope over Christmas it is a time of joy, for domestic abuse sufferers it can be a time when their situation becomes even worse.

There are two local options for residents in West Lancashire suffering from domestic abuse.

Lancashire Victim Services, funded by the Lancashire Police and Crime Commissioner, offers emotional support, information and practical help to victims and witnesses across the county.

Anyone contacting the services can speak to an Independent Domestic Violence Adviser (IDVA) who will work with them to find the best way forward.

IDVAs are specially trained to provide non-judgmental emotional support, as well as practical help with issues including personal safety, housing and benefits.

Anyone who needs support can call 0300 323 085, email info@lancashirevictimservices.org or visit lancashirevictimservices.org.

All services are free and confidential.

Police and crime commissioner, Clive Grunshaw, said: "Domestic abuse is unacceptable. We know that more than 90% of incidents are witnessed by children so whatever we can do to encourage and support people to take that first step and get help has to be a good thing.

"Supporting vulnerable people and victims is a key part of my Police and Crime Plan and I would urge anyone affected by domestic violence to contact Lancashire Victim Services.

"They provide specialist support for anyone affected by domestic abuse which is available now and it is completely confidential."

Alternatively, the Liberty Centre runs support and the West Lancashire Women's Refuge and can be contacted on their free confidential 24-hour helpline number 0808 100 3062.

Their website is www.thelibertycentre.org.uk and they may be able to assist in the provision of temporary supported accommodation.

Anyone who is in immediate danger should dial 999 and ask for the emergency services.

West Lancs Council is accredited as a White Ribbon Organisation, as part of a global movement to put a stop to male violence against women and girls.

The council's website www.westlancs.gov.uk/domesticviolence has more details about services available to people suffering domestic violence.

Councillor Kevin Wright, the council's portfolio holder for health and community safety, said: "It is important to stress that while more than 80% of victims in domestic violence cases are women, men are also the victims of domestic abuse.

"If you are reading this and think you are a victim of domestic abuse, or you think someone else may be a victim, please talk to someone you trust. Or you can call the police, or the Liberty Centre or a national helpline."

West Lancashire police inspector Adrian Jolly said: "We cannot allow victims of domestic abuse to suffer.

"We will act to bring perpetrators to justice whenever we can and will work with our partner agencies to support victims to leave abusive relationships."

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THE PROBLEM

LONG TERM CARE COSTS

You may never have thought about Long Term Care costs before or you may already know of someone who has been forced to sell the family home in order to pay for Care Fees. It may also be something you don't want to think about, especially if you are in good health, but the statistics regarding long-term care make for sombre reading.

Forced Family Home Sale

Over 1 million pensioners had to sell the family home to fund care fees in the last 5 years. (Source Daily Express/NFU Mutual).

Lifetime Savings Spent

A further 2 million people had to use their savings to fund care fees (Source Age UK).

4 Year Care Fees

The average care stay is 4 years and costs £130,200.00, this can eat through a lifetimes savings at breakneck speed (SAGA).

Care Home Payment

Almost 40% of care home residents pay for their care in full. (Age UK).

OUR SOLICITOR USES A LEGAL PROCESS TO ENSURE YOUR HOME AND ASSETS GO TO YOUR CHILDREN OR GRANDCHILDREN AND NOT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

? FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ?

Q. Is it not easier to give my home away to my children?
A. No, as the Direct gov web site explains.
Sometimes people deliberately transfer ownership of their assets to someone else in order to reduce what they pay in care home fees. If the local council believes this has happened they may assess you differently than in the normal assessment procedure: If assets were transferred within six months before you moved into care, the council can recover the cot of your stay from whoever received the gift. If the transfer happened more than six months before you moved into care, then they can assess you as if you still own the assets.

There is now no time limit as to how far back the council can go to find out if you have given away assets to avoid care costs.

Q. Can I take my property out of the trust at any time?
A. Yes. The Trustees have full control of what goes in and what comes out of the trust, with no questions asked.

Q. What happens after the first person of a couple dies?
A. The trust remains in place and continues to protect the survivor's assets, even if the survivor decides to remarry.

Q. Can I set up a trust if I am single or widowed?
A. This trust is available to anyone, whether you are single, married, widowed or living with a partner, provided however that you have not been allocated a social worker, or undergone a local authority financial assessment.

Q. What happens if I need to go into care within six months of setting up the trust?
A. The trust may not work if a social worker is appointed to you within the six months after assets are transferred into the trust. However, the trust will still protect against probate fees, still serve to ring fence assets and pass these on to the intended beneficiaries.

Q. When should I set up an Asset Protection Trust?
A. It is advisable to put this protection in place as soon as possible. None of us know when we may fall ill or have an accident. The Local Authority has the power to review the circumstances in which an APT was set up, so this is best arranged while you are in good health, living independently and are not anticipating that you will enter care, in the near future.

Q. What if I want to sell my home and buy another?
A. You can still sell your house at any time and purchase a new one. If you choose to downsize to a property of smaller value, the cash that has been released can remain protected within the trust.

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MR AND MRS C. *WN5*
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MRS S. *WN5*
"I have been very grateful for the assistance I have received. It is a very difficult time to focus on correspondence it helps a lot when you have someone you can call on. I will recommend Ashton Law."

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THE PROBLEM

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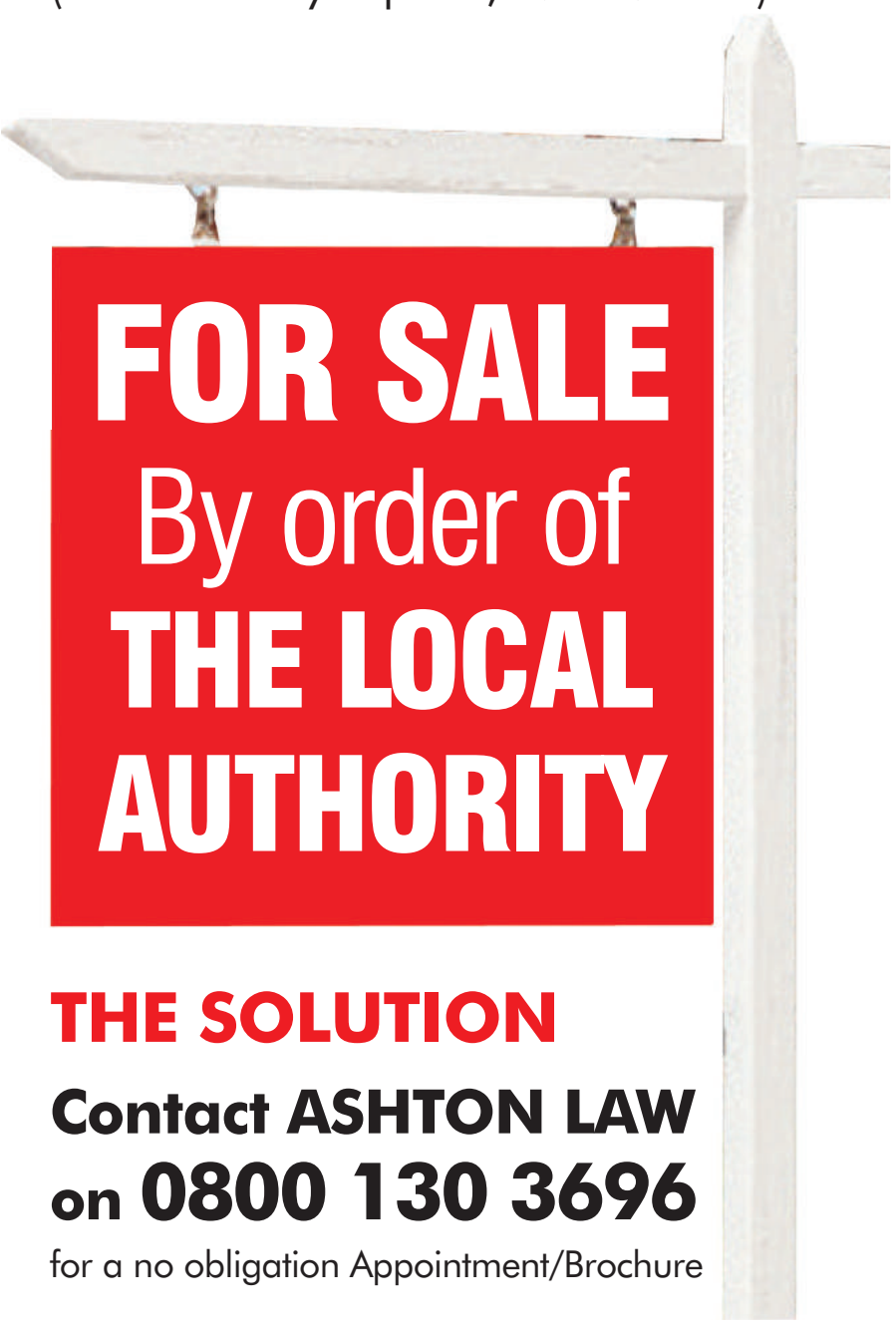
(Source: Daily Express, NFU Mutual)



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Seasonal spirit seems to be lacking this year with our TV controllers

I hope that you all had a wonderful Christmas.

This year it did somehow seem to me that the Christmas spirit was abroad more than it has been for some time - apart perhaps from our television screens.

Now by the time you read this, I might of course be proved wrong.

But it does seem to me that this year few of the 'Christmas Only' stalwarts have crept into the TV schedules - and for me personally this was something of a disaster.

And once again I have only the menace of digitalisation (and frankly me to a limited extent) to blame.

I may have mentioned this before, but back in August (I think) there was one of those periodic on-screen warnings that some programmes were moving channels, and how painlessly it was to adapt to this change.

I followed the instructions to the letter - and against my better judgement pressed the button returning my digital recording device to 'factory settings.'

Guess what happened. Yes, every one of my long-term saved programmes were deleted - including seasonal gems (to me at least), like the various productions of 'A Christmas Carol' to 'The Grinch' and 'The Polar Express.'

I know better now, and simply use the automatic channel find for the recorder which limits deletions to its easily replaced long-term programming.

Anyway, once I had cooled down a bit I consoled myself that I would be able to replace my Christmas favourites in a few months time.

But no. Not a sight nor sound of any of them.

If somehow I am wrong, and Christmas Eve/Day/Boxing Day schedules were crammed with my Yuletide favourites, I apologise.

Otherwise a pox on the TV companies say I, and I hope their Cognac fuelled Christmas puddings exploded all over their Christmas board.

Actually, talking of TV programmes, I much enjoy watching 'Master Chef - the Professionals', where young chefs compete on a knock-out basis to win the coveted title of 'Master Chef of the Year'.

The trouble for me is though, not the admittedly very high standard of cooking these chefs attain, but the kind of food they have to produce to prove their outstanding competence.

I have no doubt that it all tastes wonderful (so long as you don't mind often tiny portions) but the price visitors to those Michelin starred restaurants pay must be just about as silly to me as expecting me to contemplate hiring a business jet for my next visit to Norfolk!

Excellent no doubt. But very, very silly.

I bet that perhaps a few winners of this competition go on to run a Michelin starred eatery of their own, and very good luck to them too. Most though will, I suspect, go back to the kind of 'ordinary' establishments haunted by you and I on special occasions - and we should be very, very glad of that.

Anyway, by the time you read this the next big occasion on the horizon is New Year's Eve.

A time for hope, and often sadness, in equal proportions.

I don't often make New Year resolutions, but this time I will try not to become annoyed with fellow travellers on buses - those who thoughtlessly open windows.

It would be good if their wigs blew off though.

Charity's chief executive welcomes new PIP rules

Chris Simmonds, chief executive of Revitalise

THE chief executive officer of a charity has welcomed the news that more than 10,000 disabled people will be better off as a result of the legal victory over Personal Independence Payment rules.

The Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) announced new guidelines recently which will see some claimants of Personal Independent Payment (PIP) receiving higher benefit rates, after a court found some disabled people were not being offered enough.

Chris Simmonds, CEO of disabled people's charity Revitalise, which runs the Sandpipers respite centre in Southport, is calling for a root and branch overhaul of the entire PIP system to prevent further confusion and ensure disabled people receive sufficient benefits to play a meaningful role in society.

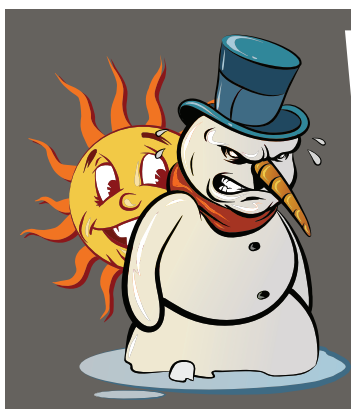
Weight

He said: "This latest legal victory simply adds weight to the argument that PIP is not fit for purpose and needs a complete overhaul.

"This time last year the UN Committee on the Rights of Disabled Persons (UNCRPD) found that the UK's welfare reforms amounted to 'grave and systematic violations' of disabled people's rights.

"Then came the news that many disabled people were being left with no choice but to purchase their own wheelchairs in order to maintain their mobility, leaving many confined to their homes.

"This government claims to be committed to the rights of disabled people, but how can they lead dignified, productive, meaningful lives if they are not given the financial support to do so?"



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Senior citizens enjoy a free meal

Report by **Kenny Parker**

A STUDENT accommodation provider in Ormskirk has treated senior citizens from the town to a free Christmas dinner and entertainment and promises more events for the future.

McComb Students laid on a three course meal for residents of the town which was served by students who volunteered to help out.

The guests were also given an opportunity to play bingo, take part in a free raffle with prizes, and to enjoy some easy listening thanks to live entertainer Sam Bennett who performed a Rat Pack tribute.

The company have said thank you to all who took part and say they look forward to putting on more events in the future.

Paul McComb, head of operations at McComb Students, which owns and manages private student halls in Ormskirk, said in a statement: "Dear Senior citizens of Ormskirk, thank you for attending our free Christmas fayre on Friday, December 15 at the Ormskirk Civic Hall.

"This was our inaugural Christmas fayre for senior citizens of Ormskirk and we look forward putting on further community events in the future.

Yes, there is such a thing as a free lunch. Senior citizens enjoy a three course Christmas dinner laid on by student accommodation provider McComb Students.

"We believe that our senior citizens are incredibly important to the community of Ormskirk and would like to offer our thanks.

"McComb Students hold regular meetings with their tenants and we are fortunate to have some amazing students who proudly volunteered to be waiters and waitresses on the day of this event.

"We hope all those who attended had a fantastic day and most of all enjoyed themselves.

"On behalf of our student tenants and the rest of the staff at McComb Students, we would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas."

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Rotary Club of Formby President George Rodda with Captain Annette Booth at St Luke's Church for last Friday's Carol Concert with Aughton Male Voice Choir. The event raised funds to support Salvation Army work over Christmas.

Voice Choir hit the right note for charity

A CHOIR from Aughton have hit the high notes for a worthy cause for charity by performing at a carol concert to raise funds for charity.

Members of the Rotary Club of Formby organised for the Aughton Male Voice Choir to sing at their Carol Concert on Friday (December 15) at St Luke's Church in Bootle.

The club's president George Rodda and club captain Annette Booth attended the event, which was held to raise funds to support the Salvation Army's work over Christmas.

The SA is part of the Christian Church and aims to help provide education and relieve poverty internationality.

Aughton Male Voice Choir was formed in April 1974 by the Aughton Ratepayers and Residents Association, which was an ambition fulfilled for the first chairman, Bill Thompson. The first director of music was Paul Morris, and the choir consisted of 12 to 16 members.

They are a small voluntary constituted organisation and a registered charity.

The group are governed by an elected management committee .

MP backs Breast Cancer Care report

WEST Lancashire MP Rosie Cooper met with Breast Cancer Care in Parliament recently to back the launch of their new report calling for people to receive the support they need to live well beyond breast cancer.

The event highlighted how the charity's flagship service, Moving Forward, helps people with breast cancer adjust to life after finishing hospital treatment and manage any long-term side effects, easing the strain on the NHS.

The "Moving Forward" report found Breast Cancer Care's support service improves the quality of life for people attending, according to the specialist EQ-5D metric2. The report also revealed the service provides economic value to the NHS and is a ready-made solution to support the health service to deliver cancer strategies across the UK.

Ms Cooper also met women who had recently attended a Moving Forward course and heard about how it benefited them.

Rosie Cooper MP said: "It is so important we support people at the end of hospital treatment so we can empower them to live life after breast cancer with confidence.

"I am calling on the NHS to ensure everyone, including women in West Lancashire, has access to the support and information they need to live well with and beyond breast cancer."

MP Rosie Cooper is supporting Breast Cancer Care

The report also found that support must be tailored to people with a breast cancer diagnosis to meet their unique needs.

Samia al Qadhi, CEO of Breast Cancer Care, said: "We are extremely grateful to Rosie Cooper MP for joining us to show her support for our work to ensure everyone with breast cancer gets the help they need.

"We know that adapting to life after breast cancer can be extremely difficult. In fact, a quarter of women find end of treatment the hardest part. Our Moving Forward course offers vital support by helping them adjust to their new reality.

"Our new report not only demonstrates the invaluable impact the course has on wellbeing, but also its ability to ease the immense pressures on the NHS. We are calling on the NHS to ensure that everyone with breast cancer has access to a tailored course, such as Moving Forward, after finishing treatment."

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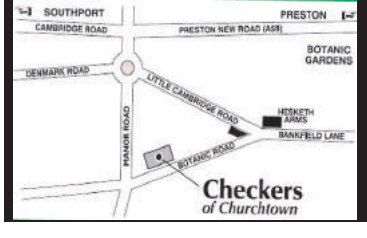

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City to bid for World Gymnastics Championships

LIVERPOOL could host the 2022 World Gymnastics Championships after the city council revealed plans to launch a bid.

And if successful, the bid could have spin-offs for the wider region.

Liverpool City Mayor Joe Anderson wants to bring an international sporting event to the city having missed out earlier this year in an attempt to host the 2022 Commonwealth Games.

If this latest bid is a success, it would see more than 700 world class gymnasts arrive in the city from 80 nations who would compete at the Echo Arena.

The World Championships, which were last held in the UK in Glasgow in 2015, will be the first event for nations to qualify for the 2024 Olympics in Paris.

The bid, submitted by British Gymnastics to the Federation of International Gymnastics and supported by UK Sport, was endorsed by Liverpool City Council's Cabinet on Friday, December 15.

The federation is expected to announce the winning bid in May 2018.

Liverpool has a track record of producing talented gymnasts, with Beth Tweddle and Crosby-born Dan Purvis who trained in Southport, just two of the more well-known athletes. Dan won an Olympic bronze medal in London 2012 and is a three time British all-round champion in men's artistic gymnastics.

Mayor Anderson said: "The World Gymnastics Championships in 2022 would be a huge sporting occasion for Liverpool and a unique opportunity to showcase the city to a global audience. Liverpool has a fantastic track record in nurturing gymnastic talent like triple world champion Beth Tweddle and we've fostered a great relationship with British Gymnastics by hosting its championships since 2012, so a 2022 World Championship would be great way to celebrate a decade long journey.

Dan Purvis won an Olympic bronze medal in London 2012

"A lot of hard work remains to be done but our exciting bid for the 2022 Commonwealth Games undoubtedly boosted the city's reputation for its ability to host prestigious sporting events.

"We have world class facilities, brilliant partners in the city and in British Gymnastics and UK Sport, and we have the x-factor in our passionate crowds who are second to none, so I can guarantee we would give the sport of gymnastics a World Championships to remember."

Matthew Greenwood, events director at British Gymnastics, said: "We are delighted to partner with Liverpool City Council and UK Sport on the bid for the 2022 World Championships.

"We have a rich history of working together and staging magnificent events in the city. To bring the World Championships back to the UK ahead of the Paris Olympic Games and host it in Liverpool would be fantastic."

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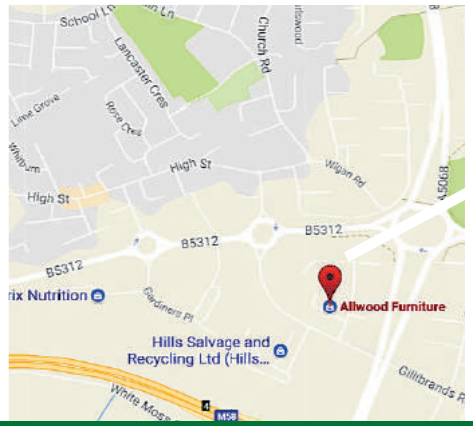

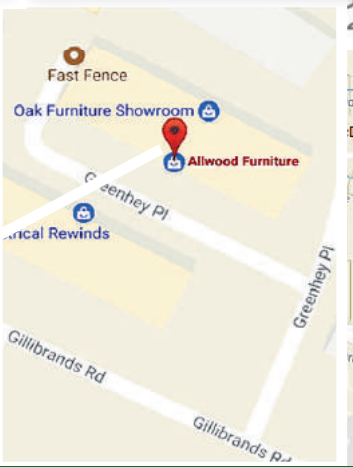

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GP extended access scheme is rolled out across the borough

Report by **Henry James**

HEALTH chiefs in West Lancashire are reminding residents they can now visit a GP or practice nurse in the evenings and weekends at a time that suits them.

They are informing people that their GP should always be their first point of contact for any non-emergency illnesses that can't be treated through self-care.

In West Lancashire a GP will be available from 8am to 6.30pm on weekdays (although local practice times may vary). However, to address the concerns of residents who may find it difficult to see a GP at a time that suits them, the extended access pilot scheme has been rolled out across West Lancashire.

The extended access pilot is a result of NHS England's General Practice Forward View, which is a national guide for primary care services over the next five years. Within the guide, it states that GP access in England is to be improved to provide greater GP access to the population at evenings and weekends within the next five years.

In West Lancashire, patients can now visit a GP in the evenings and weekends at certain times. The practices and times are as follows:

Tuesdays from 6.30pm to 8pm at the Skelmersdale Family Practice

Dr Peter Gregory

-Wednesdays from 6.30pm to 8pm at the Matthew Ryder Clinic in Up Holland

Wednesdays from 6.30pm to 8pm at the Tarleton Group Practice

Thursdays from 6.30pm to 8pm at the West Lancashire Health Centre in Ormskirk

Saturdays from 10am to 4pm at the Sandy Lane Health Centre in Skelmersdale (GP, nurse and blood clinic) Sundays from 10am to 2pm at the Sandy Lane Health Centre in Skelmersdale (GP and nurse only) Health officials have said that making an appointment to see a GP in the evening and at weekends is 'as simple as calling your local GP practice and making an appointment through the reception as you would do normally.' Patients can choose which practice they visit from those that are offering this service when making their appointment.

If residents are not currently registered with a GP, they can find out where their local GP surgery is at www.nhs.uk or by calling 0300 311 22 33.

Dr Peter Gregory, a GP in Ormskirk and GP executive lead at NHS West Lancashire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), said: "GPs across West Lancashire have been listening to the concerns of their patients and fully appreciate just how difficult they were finding it to make an appointment at a day and time that suits them, be it due to waiting times to see a GP, or the lack of availability of appointments at convenient times.

"Ultimately, as GPs, the health and wellbeing of our patients is at the forefront of what we do and collectively we have championed the extended access pilot so that we can address these very real issues and make sure that we are available for patients when they need us."

During the festive period, as the extended access pilot does not operate on bank holidays, and is not available on New Year's Day.

Did you send card to nun?

A NUN raising money for charity has appealed for the sender of a card or letter to get in touch after its contents got lost in the post.

Sister Margaret Rose, from Parbold, recently appealed for donations for The Gorsilaure Project, which helps orphaned children in Congo, Africa.

She has since contacted the Champion to say that she received the remains of a torn envelope in a plastic bag, along with an apology from Royal Mail, which she believes may have contained a donation for the charity.

Believing that it was posted locally because its address stopped at Parbold, she says the only hope of receiving any restitution from Royal Mail is if the sender is able to verify the contents.

You can contact Sister Rose at Convent of Notre Dame, Lancaster Lane, Parbold, or by email margaret-rose.scullion@gmail.com

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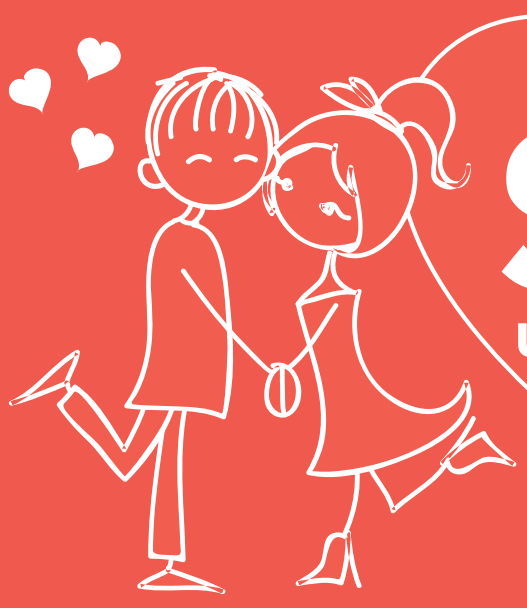

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Function raises almost £900 for Mayor's appeal

MEMBERS of the Southport committee of the Mayor of Sefton's Charity Fund have raised almost £900 with a special meal in Ainsdale.

The Mayor of Sefton, Councillor Dave Robinson, Mayoress, Wendy Robinson, Maureen Fearn, chairperson of the committee and members of the group attended the event at Dolce Vita.

Beata Kowalska, one of the organisers, said: "Seventy people attended the very enjoyable event which raised much needed funds for local charities.

"The Mayor of Sefton, Cllr Dave Robinson thanked Mario and Claire of Dolce Vita for their generosity in hosting the evening and providing the delicious meal.

"He also thanked everyone for attending and supporting the charity."

The Mayor and Mayoress with Mario of Dolce Vita and the Mayor's Committee chairperson, Maureen Fearn

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Rotary Club of Formby President George Rodda with Captain Annette Booth at St Luke's Church at the carol concert with Aughton Male Voice Choir. The event raised funds to support Salvation Army work over Christmas.

Rotary Club hit high note for charity

MEMBERS of the Rotary Club of Formby hit a high note for charity by organising a carol concert.

The club's president George Rodda and club captain Annette Booth attended the Carol Concert prior to Christmas at St Luke's Church in Bootle.

The Aughton Male Voice Choir attended and sang a number of carols.

The event was held to raise funds to support the Salvation Army's work over Christmas.

Youngsters from Formby and Southport Riding for the Disabled group meet Father Christmas

Special guest arrives at riding school...

MEMBERS of the Formby and Southport Riding for the Disabled group welcomed a very special visitor to one of their meetings.

Lynette Marsden from the group, which is based at Bowler's Riding School in Formby and cater for children and adults with a range of disabilities, said: "Father Christmas was able to take time away from his world tour to bring presents to all the riders who were very excited and pleased to see him.

"He was happy that he didn't need to climb down any chimneys this time! He also managed to take some hay and carrots for Rudolf and the other reindeer.

"After his visit the riders enjoyed Christmas party games and races on their horses and ponies. Parents, grandparents and carers also joined in the party fun."

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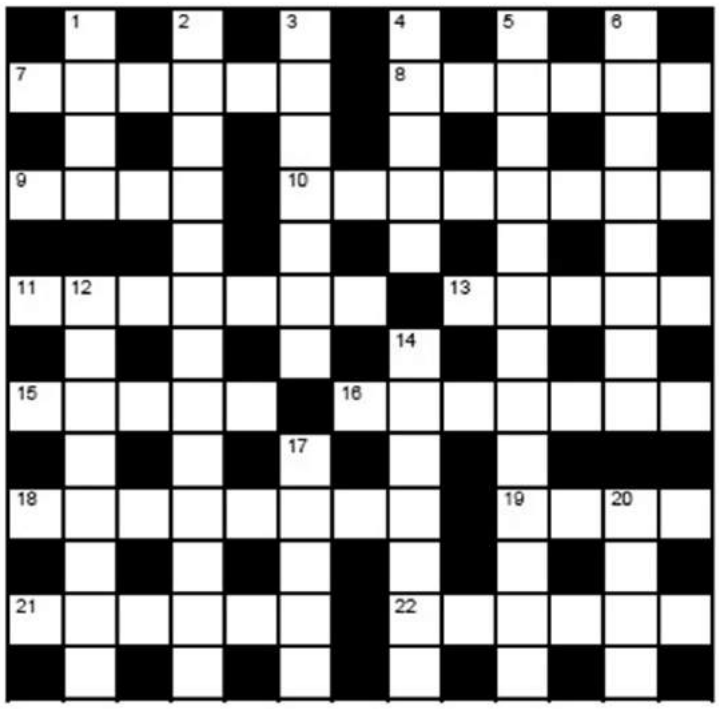

Last week's solutions:
Across: 7. Silent. 8. Ethnic. 9. Giro. 10. Outbreak. 11. Tubular. 13. Solid. 15. Acrid. 16. Piquant. 18. Bean curd. 19. Lick. 21. Hansom. 22. Italic.
Down: 1. Kiwi. 2. Revolutionise. 3. Ottoman. 4. Berth. 5. Thermonuclear. 6. Riparian. 12. Uncle Sam. 14. Disdain. 17. Burma. 20. Chin.

ACROSS

7. An unexpected and inexplicable change in a situation or someone's behaviour (6)
8. Men's neckwear item (6)
9. Lower part of a person's or animal's cheek, especially when fleshy or drooping (4)
10. Voluntary sexual intercourse between a married person and someone who is not their spouse (8)
11. Men's or boys' underpants with a branching seam at the front (1-6)
13. Fourth letter of Greek alphabet (5)
15. Near to (5)
17. Nickname of Arsenal FC (7)
20. Infinite or unending time (8)
21. A small sheltered bay (4)
22. Plane round figure (6)
23. Cause to feel upset, annoyed, or resentful (6)

DOWN

1. Remote in time or space (3-3)
2. The hindmost part of an animal (4)
3. A line of hereditary rulers of a country (7)
4. Method of re-starting play in rugby after a knock-on (5)
5. All the gods of a people or religion collectively (8)
6. Orange-coloured root vegetable (6)
12. Get in the way of (8)
14. Enclosure within a courtroom (4, 3)
16. Do something vigorously or without restraint (3, 3)
18. A deep, narrow gorge with steep sides (6)
19. Device that makes a loud prolonged signal or warning sound (5)
21. The end part of a sleeve (4)

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Sutton in sole charge of team at Linnets after assistant boss sacked

Report by **Neil Leatherbarrow**

BURSCOUGH FC assistant manager Nick Matthews has left the club after the partnership was ended by director of football Dave Sutton.

Burscough have been quite successful since Matthews arrived from Widnes where he was coach, with four wins in seven games and the Linnets have moved up the North-West Counties Premier Division table.

Matthews told The Champion: "Dave just phoned me out of the blue and said 'I have decided to call it a day', I initially thought he was standing down and letting me have complete control of playing matters, but it soon became quite clear that I was being sacked.

"I must say I am shocked by the decision, I thought things were going very well."

Matthews brought a number of new signings to the club some of whom have done very well, although it could be said that the jury is out on a couple of others. However, Burscough up until Saturday have had a good solid look about them and had stopped conceding goals like they had earlier in the season.

Saturday's almost freak game against West Didsbury & Chorlton would appear to have been the catalyst that brought about the split. Burscough lost 5-4 at Victoria Park in a game that they really should have won with plenty in hand. Some of the goals the Linnets conceded were very poor.

Dave Sutton said; "I just couldn't see us continuing to work together mainly because we had so many different opinions on things, especially on team selection.

Dave Sutton.

"Nick has brought some good players in but has brought some in that clearly are not up to standard.

"I don't want to go into individuals, that isn't fair, but players were coming to me very unhappy with things and it couldn't carry on."

He added; "I haven't fallen out with Nick but I am the manager and things were going in a direction that I wasn't comfortable with, it is best to end things when that happens."

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ADVERTISING FEATURE

With the party season getting into full swing, a Skelmersdale slimmer is ready to celebrate in style after losing weight with Slimming World.

Sarah Southern has dropped 4 dress sizes since joining her local Slimming World group less than 12 months ago. Now she's looking forward to slipping into a slinky party dress for the festive season.

The member who has slimmed down and has wowed her friends and family by the change in her – inside and out.

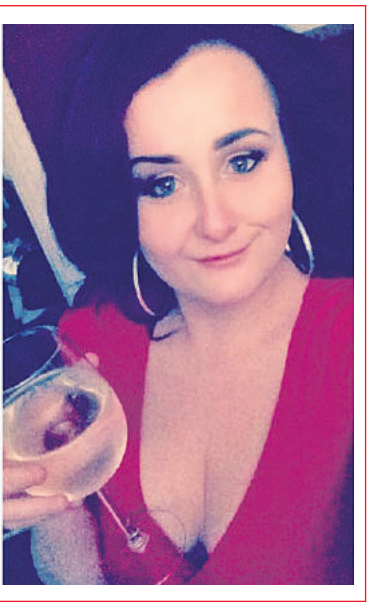
Sarah says: " I've not been this size in years and it feels great! I've always thought of Christmas as the time of year to dress up in something gorgeous and sparkly, but I didn't feel confident enough and avoided certain shops and styles because of my size. Sometimes I felt so unhappy and desperate about the way I looked that I didn't even want to go out. This year I'm going to have lots of fun finding that perfect party outfit, because now I have the confidence shop anywhere and I know I'll be able to find something that looks and feels fab!"

And Sarah's determined that her new "slinky" self is here to stay throughout Christmas and beyond. She says: "With Slimming World you don't follow a diet temporarily and then go back to your old habits when you get to the weight you want to be. I've got a completely new lifestyle now, I've learned how to make delicious and filling healthy meals and I never feel deprived because I can still have a glass of wine or a bar of chocolate if I fancy it. I'm much more active too – I love walking and swimming now."

She also intends to keep attending her Slimming World group every week: "Everyone's been so supportive, especially my Consultant. I can't imagine not going to my Slimming World group, I've made so many friends there and I don't think I could have done so well without their support so I want to be there to help them all to reach their targets as well. We have a real laugh too – it's a great night out!"

Sarah, hopes her achievements will inspire lots of other people in West Lancashire: "I hope I can shows people that whether you've got a little or a lot to lose, slimming down can make a huge difference to your confidence and self-esteem. And because Slimming World's eating plan is so generous you can plan to enjoy all your parties and treats, and still lose weight. At Slimming World members learn about making the healthiest choices and how to cope with challenges that might previously have thrown them off course, like Christmas dinner or parties."

If you're inspired by Sarah's story and you'd like to drop a dress size or more, pop along to any Slimming World group, all details are on the website...www.slimming-world.co.uk.



ADVERTISING FEATURE

Super slimmer Michelle was 'Inspired' Slimming World

West Lancashire slimmer Michelle Thompson is looking forward to the 'New Year' more than ever before after losing over 3 stone with her local Slimming World Group.

The 34 year old has dropped a whopping 4 dress sizes since joining in February. Michelle set a Christmas Wish back in October to fit in to a new size 12 dress. By the time December hit that dress was too big! She is now a Slinky dress size 10-12.

Michelle says "I was really looking forward to this Christmas and finally feeling glamorous enough to wear the outfits I always dreamed. When I was bigger I was really unhappy. I didn't like what I saw when I looked in the mirror. I hated shopping for clothes and felt self conscious most of the time. Things are completely different now and I feel much more confident than I used to."

She adds, "I love going to group! Everyone is so friendly and I've made some great friends. It's my time for me and really helps me to stay motivated. I love swapping recipes and ideas every week. There's lots going on in the group so it's always lots of fun. My Consultant has been so supportive and is always at the end of the phone if I need her."

After joining Slimming World, Michelle began following the club's Food Optimising healthy eating plan and was amazed to discover that she didn't have to give up her favourite meals.

"As a working single mum, it's important for me to find meals I can make quickly and on a budget that my little girl will eat. I can do all of that on Slimming World. Our favourite is a roast dinner! I still eat out too - I just make healthier choices like having pasta with a tomato and vegetable sauce instead of meals that are fried or covered in creamy sauces or dressings."

MICHELLE'S DAILY MENU
Breakfast: Baked Oats
Lunch: Homemade soup
Dinner: Chicken Curry with cauliflower rice
Snacks: fruit, chicken drumsticks and low syn crisps

So, if you want to be Slimmer, happier and healthier like Michelle in 2018, please see the advertisement attached for local group details.

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Contact Tina for details 07855 097585

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MONDAY
LYDIATE
Lydiate Village Centre, Lambshear Lane
9am & 11am
Paula: 07484 263698
ASHURST, SKELMERSDALE
The Ashurst Centre, Lyndhurst
11am & 1pm
Sue: 07817 444580
ASHURST, SKELMERSDALE
The Ashurst Centre, Lyndhurst
3.30pm, 5.30pm & 7.30pm
Sue: 01695 420 305
MAGHULL
Cheshire Lines (behind Fun Factor)
6.30pm
Michelle: 07931 125172
OLD ROAN
The Hope Centre (behind Tesco), Aintree Lane
9.30am & 11.30am
Victoria: 07766 136641
OLD ROAN
The Hope Centre (behind Tesco), Aintree Lane
5pm & 7pm
Victoria: 07766 136641
OLD SKELMERSDALE
The Cricket Club, Blaguegate Lane
5pm & 7pm
Paula: 07484 263698
NEW VENUE

TUESDAY
OLD SKELMERSDALE
The Cricket Club, Blaguegate Lane
9.15 & 11.15am
Paula: 07484 263698
NEW VENUE

WEDNESDAY
ORMSKIRK
Ormskirk Rugby Club, Green Lane
9.30 & 11.30am
Tina: 0151 548 4266
ORMSKIRK
Ormskirk Rugby Club, Green Lane
5.30 & 7.30pm
Tina: 0151 548 4266
MAGHULL
The Cheshire Lines (behind Fun Factor)
4.30 & 6.30pm
Emma: 07414 223 617
UP HOLLAND
Up Holland Methodist Church, Alma Hill
9.30am
Sarah: 07969 395302
UP HOLLAND
Up Holland Methodist Church, Alma Hill
3.30, 5.30 & 7.30pm
Sarah: 07969 395302
BURSCOUGH
Burscough Cricket Club School Lane
3.30pm, 5.30 & 7.30pm
NEW VENUE

THURSDAY
AUGHTON
Aughton Village Hall, Winifred Lane
8.00am & 10.00am
Zoe: 01695 580 966
AUGHTON
Scout and Guide Hut (behind Christ Church), Long Ln
5.30 & 7.30pm
Zoe: 01695 580 966
MAGHULL
The Cheshire Lines (behind Fun Factor)
3.00pm 5:00pm & 7.00pm
Sue: 07957 531346
DIGMOOR, SKELMERSDALE
Digmoor Community Centre, Birleywood
9.30am & 11.30am
Jackie: 07888 830892
DIGMOOR, SKELMERSDALE
Digmoor Community Centre, Birleywood
4.30pm & 6.30pm
Hayley 07583 762529

FRIDAY
NEW GROUP starting 12 Jan
ORMSKIRK
Base Dance Academy Malthouse Business Park Southport Rd
9am
Zoe: 01695 580966
MAGHULL
The Cheshire Lines (behind Fun Factor)
9:30am & 11:30am

SATURDAY
OLD SKELMERSDALE
Greenhill Community Room Beech Close (Off Lancaster Cres)
8am & 10am
Sarah: 07969 395302
ORMSKIRK
Ormskirk Rugby Club Green Lane
7.30am & 9.30am
Hayley: 07583 762529
ORMSKIRK
St Anne's School, Aughton Street, Ormskirk
10.30am & 12.30pm
Sue: 07817 444580
MAGHULL
The Cheshire Lines (behind Fun Factor)
Saturday 9am & 11am
Gill: 07921 222405

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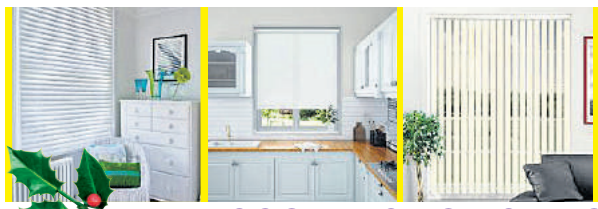

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December Deadlines
Due to the festive period, the booking deadlines for advertising are as follows:
For publication **Wednesday 3rd January 2018**
Deadline **4pm Friday 29th December 2017**
Online Bookings: **Midnight 1st January 2018**

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Announcements

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

WRIGHT VIOLET

Violet's family would like to thank all who attended the funeral. Much appreciation for all the cards and kind words. Thank you to Peter Goulding for a very caring service. Also a special thanks to Claire and Dave at Newland and Wilkinson Independent Funeral Directors for their dignified and caring arrangements.

VAUGHAN ROSEMARY

The Family of the late Rosemary Vaughan would like to thank all relatives and friends for their kind expressions of sympathy, support and cards received during their sad bereavement. Thank you all who attended the funeral service and for the kind donations to Queenscourt Hospice

SIMPSON TERESA

Barry would like to thank all who attended the Funeral. Special thanks to Tarleton Group Practice. Dr Southern and her team of district nurses for their outstanding care. A heartfelt appreciation to Dave & Claire at Newland & Wilkinson Independent Funeral Directors for their impeccable care and support at such a distressing time.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

HOLLINSHEAD ERIC

Iris and family would like to express sincere thanks to all friends and relatives for messages of condolence and sympathy cards during this sad time. A special thank you to Mark Stanford for a lovely service, to Coyne Bros for excellent arrangements and for the donations received in memory of Eric for The Alzheimers Society.

DEATHS

ORMEROD ALBERT

13th December 2017
Aged 87 years

A much loved Dad and Grandad. Albert was loved and will be missed. Funeral Service and Committal will take place at West Lancashire Crematorium, Burscough on Friday 5th January 2018 at 1pm. Family flowers only by request please but the family are gratefully receiving donations for the Ellen McArthur Trust or to your own favourite charity. Further enquiries please to Cookson Tyrer Funeral Directors, 2 Smithy Walk, Burscough, Lanchashire L40 5UU Tel: 01704 897770

SQUIBB JOHN

15th December 2017
Died peacefully at home

Loving Husband of Jenny. Much loved Dad of Claudine, cherished Grandad of Lennon and Louie. John will be greatly missed by all his family and friends. Service at Southport Crematorium on Monday 8th January at 10:40am. Family flowers only please, but if desired donations are being gratefully received for Queenscourt Hospice. Donations and enquiries to Howard's Funeral Directors, 1-5 Roe Lane, Southport, PR9 9DR. Telephone: 01704 500086.

DEATHS

KIDMAN CHRISTINE JOAN (Nee Salisbury & Tracey)

15th December 2017
Died peacefully in hospital surrounded by her family
Aged 63

Christine will be sadly missed by all her family and friends. Funeral Service to take place at Our Lady Help of Christians Church, Tarleton on 29th at 12:30pm followed by Committal at West Lancashire Crematorium, Burscough at 2:30pm Further enquiries to Newland and Wilkinson Independent Funeral Directors, 311 Hesketh Lane, Tarleton PR4 6RJ Telephone: 01772 811165

ROGERS KEN

20th December 2017
Passed away peacefully at Home
Aged 79 years of Burscough

Beloved Husband of Jean, much loved Dad of Joanne & Neil, Dear Father in Law of Stephen & Donna and Loving Grandad of Calum, Emily & Ben. Funeral Service at West Lancashire Crematorium on Friday 29th December 2017 at 10:45am. Further enquiries please to Sally Hunter, MLS Independent Funeral Directors. 22a Liverpool Road North, Burscough, Lancs, L40 5TP. 01704 891555.

PARKER PETER

17th December 2017
Aged 76 years

Devoted Husband to Bea, loving Father to Neil, Hazel and Michelle, Father-in-law to Jake, Martin and Amber and a much loved Grandad to Mia, Eve, Dan, April and Finn. He will be sadly missed by all his family and friends. Funeral service to take place at Southport Crematorium on Friday 5th January at 2pm. Family flowers only but donations if desired to The Alzheimers Society. All enquiries to Hunters of Ormskirk, 128b Burscough Street, Ormskirk L39 2EY. Tel 01695 572997.

DEATHS

HENEGHAN JACK

21st December 2017
Peacefully at Sliver Birch Lodge Nursing Home
Aughton
aged 80 years
formerly of Skelmersdale

He will be sadly missed by all who knew him. All enquiries to Melanie Hardman at h Hardman & Co., Independent Family Funeral Directors of Skelmersdale, Ormskirk & Scarisbrick Tel: 01695 722122/720012

BURRILL ROSE EVELYN

13th December 2017
Peacefully at Asmall Hall Nursing Home
aged 92 years
formerly of Scarisbrick

She will be sadly missed by all her family. Funeral service and interment at St Mark's Church, Scarisbrick on Thursday 4th January 2018 at 10.30am. Family flowers only please, donations if desired for St Mark's Church or St Elizabeth's RC Church. All enquiries to Melanie Hardman at H Hardman & Co., Independent Family Funeral Directors of Ormskirk, Skelmersdale & Scarisbrick. Tel 01695 722122/720012

MAXWELL ARTHUR WILLIAM

Passed away peacefully in Hospital on 17th December 2017
Aged 68 years

Loving Husband To Kay Much Loved Dad to Gina, Paul, Lindsay and son in law Ste Much loved Grandad to all his 10 Grandchildren and 1 Great Grandson Will be sadly missed by all his family & friends Funeral service at St. Helens Crematorium on Thursday 28th December 2017 at 1 pm, followed by a reception at Quarry Bank Club in Skelmersdale

DEATHS

NELSON CHARLES JAMIESON (Jim)

19th December 2017
Peacefully in Hospital
aged 85 years
of Skelmersdale

Dear Husband of Jean, loving Dad of Alastair, Richard and Joanna and devoted Grandad of Josh, Rob, Aidan, Nathan, Sara and Dani. Funeral Service at St Paul's Church, Skelmersdale on Friday 29th December 2017 at 10:15am followed by cremation at West Lancashire Crematorium, Burscough. Family flowers only please, donations if desired for The Stroke Association. All enquiries to Melanie Hardman at H Hardman & Co., Independent Family Funeral Directors of Skelmersdale, Ormskirk & Scarisbrick. Tel: 01695 722122/720012

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DEATHS

BRAMWELL ANNE

18th December 2017
Peacefully in hospital after a short illness, aged 86 years of Ormskirk

The dearly loved Mum of Linda, devoted Nan of Ben and Tom, Great Nanan of Lucas and Lilah, greatly missed Sister of Dolly and Willy and a great friend to many at Brookside. Requiem Mass at St Anne's RC Church, Ormskirk on Tuesday 2nd January 2018 at 10.15am followed by cremation at West Lancashire Crematorium, Burscough. All enquiries to Melanie Hardman at H Hardman & Co., Independent Family Funeral Directors of Ormskirk, Skelmersdale & Scarisbrick. Tel 01695 722122/720012

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Rachael W

Rachael joined us straight from School, choosing the National Apprenticeship Scheme rather than University to start her career. Given her tender age of 18 she has fitted exceptionally well into the team and indeed the business. It's a win win for Rachael, whilst working towards an industry recognised qualification she has also started a career.

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Steven W

Steven joined us approximately 9 years ago, prior to this he worked for a car hire company sourcing specialised vehicles for customers following claims. Steven initially joined us as a Broadband and Mobile specialist and having successfully delivered his numbers year on year he has now progressed to a Senior Account Manager which he enjoys thoroughly.

Steven say this is a "Good business, brilliant people and you certainly get out of it what you put in!"

Andy & Marie Macgregor have successfully owned & managed their BT Local Business for some 15 years and in that time have faced many changes and challenges in the telecoms industry. Based in Burscough, they head up an experienced team of both desk and field specialists covering the North West of England. Working as BT's dedicated partner in the area they are delighted to be growing their business and their team even further.

Katy J

Katy joined us from BT Residential, whilst she has only been with us for just under a year, Katy has integrated so very well into our very successful Desk Sales Team. In the short time of being with us she has developed with confidence and ease in her position and is already working on progressing in her role. We are delighted to see her becoming one of our Top Performers, exciting times ahead.

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Ian P

Previously working for American Express, Ian has 10 years of experience with the BT Local Business. He has developed his position within our business, starting with Desk Sales, Account Management and now Desk Sales Manager

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Application forms can be obtained from Mrs Jarvis **sbm@pda.lancs.sch.uk** for a start date from Monday 8th January 2018.
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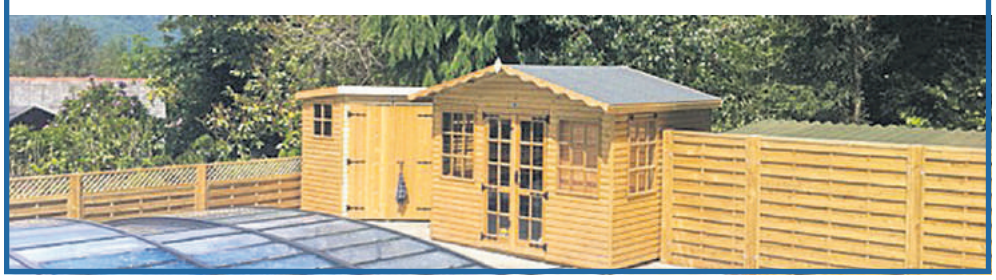

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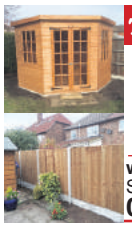

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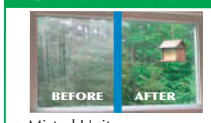

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I am bored to tears with new cars trying to look like an off-roader

Life On Cars
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ON THE other side of the world Suzuki's crack team of engineers are doing what I thought would never happen.

After nearly 20 years they're finally preparing a replacement for the Suzuki Jimny – which is a good thing, because it's a proper small off-roader.

It'll look a bit macho, but that is because it will have four-wheel-drive, chunky tyres and proper ground clearance. But I am bored to tears with virtually every new car being launched nowadays attempting to look like an off-roader, but coming across instead as a bloated, watered-down pastiche of one.

It's though an entire generation of outdoor types have stopped aspiring to be Ray Mears and have settled for being Ant and Dec on *I'm A Celebrity* instead.

Take the new Vauxhall Viva Rocks. Its makers are doing exactly what Rover did with the Streetwise 15 years ago – jacking a perfectly good hatchback up by about an inch, cloaking it with all sorts of cosmetic add-ons to make it look a bit like an off-roader, and convincing roughly no one.

The Viva's a perfectly good car, of course, but this new one is being given mud-plugging aspirations it can't possibly live up to.

It won't even crawl over a kerb to escape a supermarket car park, which was always the town centre party trick of proper off-roaders. It's the same with all the other dreary, derivative crossovers and sports activity vehicles clogging up the new car market at the moment.

Why, for instance, is a sporty brand like MG making them? Why are Maserati and Lamborghini joining the fray? And why would you buy a BMW X1 or X3 when a 3-Series Touring is a far, far nicer car to drive in the real world?

I suspect the answer's because I grew up in a household with two old Land Rovers and am desperately out of step with today's *I'm A Celebrity* - loving crossover buyers, but I still long for the day these cars go out of fashion and people go back to buying hot hatches, swoopy coupes, and plush saloons instead.

Oh, and proper off-roaders, with four-wheel-drive and fancy locking diffs, for that matter.

If you want a small, outdoor-type sort of car then by all means buy the new Jimny when it arrives, because it'll be able to escape the muddy field a Viva Rocks won't.

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• Alloys • Privacy Glass • 1/2 Leather

Now £7,495

Was £7,995 — £37 a Week

64 Peugeot 308 1.6 Hdi Active 5 Dr

• 1 Owner • 47000 Miles • Alloys

Now £7,995

Was £8,495 — £39 a Week

61 Volvo S60 1.6D Se Lux

• 57000 Miles • Sat Nav • Leather

Now £7,995

Was £8,995 — £39 a Week

65 Vauxhall Meriva 1.4 Exclusive

• 1 Owner • Alloys • 23000 Miles

Now £7,995

Was £8,495 — £39 a Week

63 Vauxhall Insignia 2.0 Cdti Sri Estate

• 1 Owner • FSH • Alloys

Now £7,995

Was £8,495 — £39 a Week

63 Ford Focus 1.6 Tdci Titanium 5 Dr

• 1 Owner • FSH • Alloys

Now £7,995

Was £8,495 — £39 a Week

63 Ford Mondeo 2.0 Tdci Titanium X

• 1 Owner • FSH • 1/2 Leather

Now £8,495

Was £8,995 — £42 a Week

60 Bmw X1 2.0 D X Drive Se

• Alloys • Air Con • CD Player

Now £8,995

Was £9,495 — £47 a Week

63 Ford Mondeo 2.0 Tdci Titanium X

• Automatic • 1 Owner • Leather

Now £9,495

Was £9,995 — £47 a Week

62 Vauxhall Antara 2.2 Cdti Se 4X4

• 4000 Miles • Leather • Sat Nav

Now £9,495

Was £9,995 — £47 a Week

63 BMW 116D SE 5 DR

• 1 Owner • 68000 Miles • FSH

Now £9,695

Was £9,995 — £47 a Week

64 Mini 1.2 One

• Pepper Pack • Alloys • Cd Player

Now £9,695

Was £9,995 — £47 a Week

65 Ford Focus New Model

• Petrol or Diesel • 1 Owner • 37000 Miles

Now £9,995

Was £10,495 — £49 a Week

65 Ford Focus 1.0 Zetec 5 Dr

• 1 Owner • Rear Priv Glass • 17" Alloys

Now £9,995

Was £10,495 — £49 a Week

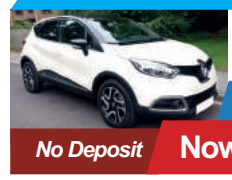
12 Ford S Max 2.0 Tdci Titanium

• 1 Owner • FSH • Priv Glass

Was £10,495

No Deposit — Now £9,995

15 Renault Capture 1.5 Dci Dynamique S



• 1 Owner • 17" Alloys • Air Con

Was £11,295

No Deposit — Now £10,495

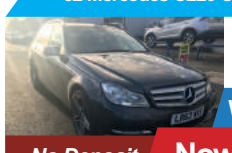
62 VW Passat Cc 2.0 Tdi

• Leather • Sat Nav • Alloys

Was £11495

No Deposit — Now £10,995

62 Mercedes C220 Cdi SE Estate



• Automatic • Leather • 18" Alloys

Was £11,495

No Deposit — Now £10,995

66 Vauxhall Astra 1.6 Cdti Sri Nav 5 Dr

• 1 Owner • Alloys • Sat Nav

Was £11,495

No Deposit — Now £10,995

56 Range Rover 3.0 Td V6 Auto

• Kahn Body Kit • Kahn Upholstery • 22" Alloys

Was £11,495

No Deposit — Now £10,995

63 Audi A3 Tdi Sport 5 Dr

• 1 Owner • FSH • 56000 Miles

Was £11,995

No Deposit — Now £11,495

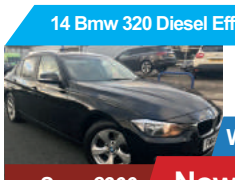
16 Ford Focus 1.5 Tdci Zetec S 5 Dr

• 1 Owner • Full Sports Body Kit

was 11995

No Deposit — Now £11,495

14 Bmw 320 Diesel Efficiency 4 Dr



• 1 Owner • Leather • FSH

Was £12,995

Save £300 — Now £12,695

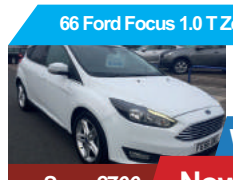
65 Vauxhall Insignia 2.0 Cdti Tourer Sri

• VX Line • 1 Owner • 37000 Miles

Was £12,995

No Deposit — Now £11,995

66 Ford Focus 1.0 T Zetec Nav 5 Dr

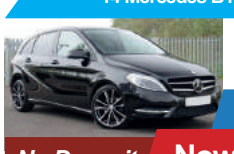


• Sat Nav • App Pack • 18000 Miles

Was £12,695

Save £700 — Now £11,995

14 Mercedes B180 cdl Sport



• 1 Owner • Alloys • 48000 Miles

Was 12995

No Deposit — Now £12,795

62 Jaguar Xf 2.2 Sport Auto

• 49000 Miles • FSH • Alloys

Was 14495

No Deposit — Now £13,995

15 Mini Countryman Diesel Cooper

• Automatic • 9000 Miles • Alloys

Was £15,995

Save £2000 — Now £13,995

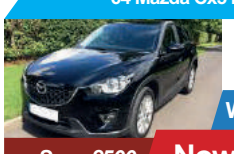
15 Honda Crv 1.6 Cdti Sr

• 1 Owner • 43000 Miles • Sat Nav

Was £15,495

Save £500 — Now £14,995

64 Mazda Cx5 Diesel Sport

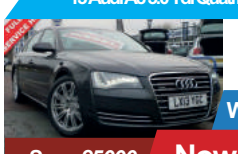


• 1 Owner • 38000 Miles • Leather

Was £15,495

Save £500 — Now £14,995

13 Audi A8 3.0 Tdi Quatrro Sport Exec

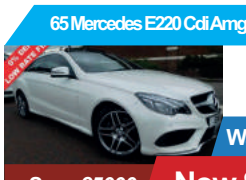


• 49000 Miles • FSH • Automatic

Was £24,995

Save £5000 — Now £19,995

65 Mercedes E220 Cdi Amg Line Coupe



• Automatic • Pan Roof • Red Leather

Was £27,995

Save £5000 — Now £22,995

Liverpool Car Centre

www.liverpoolcarcentre.com

0151 933 6706

Brewster St., Bootle, Merseyside, **L20 9NG**

Open Time: Mon-Fri 9am - 7pm. Sat 9am - 5pm & Sun 11am - 5pm

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Total Price £4,995.00. Deposit £0.00. Total Amount of Credit £4,995.00. First Payment of £0.00, Followed by 59 Payments of £112.97, with a **Final Payment of £271.97**. Duration of Agreement is 61 Months. Fees of £358.00 are included in the payments shown. Interest Charges of £1584.2. Annual Fixed Interest Rate of 6%.

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